

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Federal-State Joint Board on	)	
Universal Service	)	
	)	
Virginia Cellular, LLC	)	CC Docket No. 96-45
	)	
Petition for Designation as an Eligible	)	
Telecommunications Carrier in the	)	
Commonwealth of Virginia	)	

**NOTICE OF PARTIAL RELINQUISHMENT OF ELIGIBLE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION**

Virginia Cellular, LLC, by and through undersigned counsel, and pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.205, respectfully notifies the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) of the partial relinquishment of Virginia Cellular's eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation in Virginia, effective immediately. The specific incumbent local exchange carrier wire center where Virginia Cellular is relinquishing its designation is the Williamsville wire center in the study area of MGW Telephone Company (MGW). No other wire centers in Virginia are affected by Virginia Cellular's relinquishment with respect to Williamsville.

In support of its notice of relinquishment, Virginia Cellular states as follows:

1. Virginia Cellular is licensed by the Commission to provide commercial mobile radio service (CMRS) in parts of Virginia.
2. By Order dated January 22, 2004, the Commission granted, subject to certain conditions, Virginia Cellular's request for designation as an ETC within specified portions of its

licensed service area in Virginia.<sup>1</sup> The Commission also conditionally designated Virginia Cellular as an ETC in the service areas of MGW Telephone Company, including the Williamsville wire center, and Shenandoah Telephone Company subject to agreement by the Virginia State Corporation Commission (Virginia Commission) to redefine these rural telephone companies' service areas to the individual wire center level.<sup>2</sup> On June 23, 2004, the Virginia Commission issued a Final Order in Case No. PUC-2001-00263 concurring with the Commission's redefinition of the MGW and Shenandoah service areas to the individual wire center level.<sup>3</sup>

3. On June 1, 2006, Virginia Cellular, LLC was acquired by WWC License LLC, a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Alltel Corporation. On January 9, 2009, Alltel Corporation and its subsidiaries, including Virginia Cellular, were acquired by Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon Wireless"), such that Virginia Cellular is now a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of Verizon Wireless.

4. 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) states, in pertinent part:

A State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give advance notice to the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a

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<sup>1</sup> *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Virginia Cellular, LLC Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Commonwealth of Virginia*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Memorandum Opinion & Order, 19 FCC Rcd 1563 (2004) (*Virginia Cellular Order*).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 1583-84 (para. 45).

<sup>3</sup> *See Application of Virginia Cellular LLC for designation as an eligible telecommunications provider under 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2)*, Case No. PUC-2001-00263 (Va. State Corp. Comm'n June 23, 2004).

common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) of such relinquishment. Prior to permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier.

*Id.* (emphases added); *see also* 47 C.F.R. § 54.205(a) and (b).

### **NOTICE OF PARTIAL RELINQUISHMENT**

5. In accordance with the foregoing requirements, Virginia Cellular provides the following information in support of its notice of partial relinquishment:

6. Following relinquishment of Virginia Cellular's ETC designation in the Williamsville wire center, Virginia Cellular will continue to provide CMRS service in Virginia. All customers currently served by Virginia Cellular will continue to be served in the ordinary course of business.

7. Although it will continue to offer CMRS service in Virginia, Virginia Cellular is relinquishing its ETC designation in the Williamsville wire center in the study area of MGW. Virginia Cellular currently has no Lifeline customers in the Williamsville wire center and is receiving no Lifeline funds with respect to that wire center.

8. Following relinquishment of Virginia Cellular's ETC designation with respect to the Williamsville wire center, that wire center will continue to be served by MGW, the incumbent ETC. To the best of Virginia Cellular's knowledge, MGW has been designated an ETC throughout its service area.

9. To the best of Virginia Cellular's knowledge, the remaining ETC will not be required to purchase or construct additional facilities to continue providing service within the Williamsville wire center.

10. Because Virginia Cellular will continue to offer CMRS service within its licensed service area and currently serves no customers in the Williamsville wire center, and because the Williamsville wire center will continue to be served by at least one other ETC, the Commission should approve Virginia Cellular's partial relinquishment without delay.

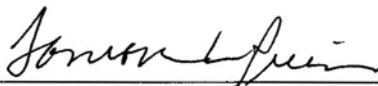
11. Because Virginia Cellular currently serves no customers in the Williamsville wire center, there is no need for any customer notification of its ETC relinquishment in that wire center. In addition, upon approval of this petition, Virginia Cellular will not activate any Lifeline subscribers in the Williamsville wire center.

### **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Virginia Cellular respectfully requests that the Commission approve the partial relinquishment of its ETC designation in Virginia effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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